



The 12th Edition

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Headquarters, Twelfth Air Force Supplement to the *Desert Airman*

Friday, October 10, 2003

News Briefs

Holiday weekend

Columbus Day, a government holiday, is Monday, Oct. 13 making this weekend a three-day weekend.

Everyone is encouraged to enjoy the three-day weekend in a fun, but safe way using some of the following tips:

1. If you drink, designate a driver before going out or call the AADD program at 850-2233.
2. When planning an outing, apply personal risk management to ensure you return home safely.
3. Avoid extended driving periods, take frequent breaks to stretch and don't try to "make that extra mile" before stopping for the night.
4. Above all – keep an eye out and avoid putting yourself into unsafe situations, use the wingman policy – it pays!

Monthly ceremony

Twelfth Air Force's monthly awards and promotion ceremony to recognize those promoted in November is **cancelled**. Commanders and supervisors are encouraged to hold unit ceremonies to recognize their promotees.

The next Twelfth Air Force ceremony is 2 p.m. Nov. 26 in the Catalina Room at the Officers' Club.

Honorees need to be in place by 1:30 p.m. For more information, call 12 AF/PA at 8-6053.

Got a story idea?

Does your workcenter have a new mission or some hi-tech equipment? Has someone in your unit recently participated in a major sports event or have a unique hobby, call 12th Air Force Public Affairs at 228-6053.

12 AF hosts WWII veterans reunion

"We were privileged to have served during this century's most exciting moment and, for all our good times and hell raising, we served with a dedication and super-patriotism seldom known. The dictionary defines 'hero' as a man of valor and nobility. Each man here knows that during that brief, shining moment, whether he was turning a wrench or pulling the trigger, he qualifies. He knows in his heart that this is true and that just might be the glue that brings us together. God bless this wonderful group."

This excerpt was taken from *The Memory is Still Fresh*, a book written about the recollections of the 346th Fighter Squadron members who spent three years together during World War II.

On October 1, about 61 years after the 346th Fighter Squadron was established in England as part of the 350th Fighter Group of Twelfth Air Force, more than 23 members of the original unit and their family members gathered in Tucson for their annual reunion.

During the reunion, the veterans visited Pima Air and Space Museum and Davis-Monthan Air Force Base as part of their reunion activities held in Tucson this year.

The veterans' visit at D-M included a reception and mission briefing by Lt. Gen. Randall Schmidt, 12 AF Commander, a tour of the Twelfth Air Force Headquarters building, and an A-10 static display.

Both the static display and the headquarters tour had special meaning to the veterans who supported the North Africa Invasion on Nov. 8, 1942 and advanced into Sardinia, Corsica, and through Italy until the "furious finale" which ended in the Po



1st Lt. Sarah Schwennesen

Members of the 346th Fighter Squadron with the A-10 Thunderbolt II, the successor to their World War II aircraft, the P-47 Thunderbolt.

Valley of northern Italy on May 2, 1945.

This squadron, which originally had about 300 troops, and its 30 P-47 "Thunderbolt" fighter aircraft achieved amazing victories during World War II. The following numbers attest to the amount of destruction or damage to enemy forces these dedicated airman accomplished with only 30 aircraft: 154 enemy airplanes, 81 bridges, 69 armored vehicles, 344 gun positions, 632 locomotives, 2,686 motor transports, and 4,918 railroad cars and tankers.

In honor of the P-47 Thunderbolt's achievements, the A-10 aircraft was named the "Thunderbolt II" out of respect for the P-47 flown during World War II. The static display gave the

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A solemn remembrance

In honor of the second anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States, the Forward Operating Location Manta, Ecuador, dining facility staff members and other volunteers built a remembrance flag and set a table of honor for those who had died in the terrorist attacks. The staff members and other volunteers spent about 100 manhours writing the 2,948 names on the red, white and blue paper that makes up the flag display.



Courtesy photos

Security across the services

SrA Mantrako Lampkin, Detachment 1, 612th Theater Operations Group in Key West, Fla., serves as a security forces augmentee at Naval Air Station, Key West, Fla. Security forces augmentees are used to assist with the heightened security measures which have been in place since the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States. Lampkin is a Command and Control Journeyman in the U.S. Southern Command Air Forces Flight Monitoring Facility and has been performing security augmentee duties for more than two months.



Courtesy photo

The Calendar

Unified Endeavor/FD 04 IPC

Initial Planning Conference hosted by USJWFC. Three phase joint warfighting exercise at the strategic and operation levels of war. 12 AF/CV will be AFFOR. (Call Lt. Col. Murray/Mr. McGregor, 228-0083.)

Blue Flag 04-2 TAP/CAP, Jan 5-15

The first week of the Crisis Action Planning Phase will involve standup of the APG for mission analysis and course

of action development. The second week will involve the typical CAP events to include joint aerospace operations plan development and building the first execution day air tasking order. (Call Maj. Weniger, 228-0085)



Blue Flag 04-2 EXE, Feb. 3-13

Blue Flag Command Post Exercise is the 12 Air Force primary annual Air Operations Center training event. Feb. 5-7 includes the primary inbrief, participant positional training and a mini-exercise. Feb 8-12 is the primary exercise execution period. (Call Maj. Weniger, 228-0085)



The 12th Edition

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SALUTE!

Congratulations to 12th AF warriors who recently were – or soon will be – promoted to the rank indicated and those who were recently awarded medals recognizing their accomplishments

Promotees

Airman 1st Class

Colette Morales
Molly McKenzie



Senior Airman

Nathan Caldwell
Erika Castro
Tshara Crouch
Lorin Keating
Stephen Kovach

Harold Wescott
Janay Williams
Jennifer Williamson

Staff Sgt

Carry Duhrm
Cherrie Williams



Lieutenant Colonel

Patricia Thorstad

Quarterly Award Winners

Airman

A1C Mark Kudlas

NCO

TSgt William Wilkinson

SNCO

SMSgt Melvin French

CGO

1st Lt. Alvin Quinones

Senior Civilian

Ruth Dunn

Top of the 12th

A1C Tasha Diaz is a Weather Forecaster in the 25th Operations Weather Squadron.

Years of service: 1.5

Hometown: Bronx, N.Y.

Primary Duties and Responsibilities: Monitor real-time weather conditions throughout 390k square-miles of the western CONUS. Develops and disseminates weather watches, warnings, advisories and forecasts to aid in executing missions and safeguarding resources at 40 DoD locations. Prepare detailed briefing for aircrews conducting operations worldwide.

“A1C Diaz is a go-getter. She strives for perfection in all that she does and demands the same of her peers,” said Capt. Marc Gasbarro, Flight Commander, Southwest Region Operations. “She is also an extraordinary communicator who leaves a positive impression on everyone she converses with. A1C Diaz is one of the hardest working honest and professional individuals I’ve ever met.”

Favorite aspects of D-M: I love the scenery. The wide-open space is such a big change from the tall skyscrapers of New York City.

If you could change one thing to improve D-M, what would it be? The base could use more safety lighting (ie: in parking lots and around buildings that are in use after hours).

What motivates your winning attitude? My family motivates everything I do one hundred percent. They inspire me to always go above and beyond. All of the things I have achieved I attribute to my family.



A1C Diaz

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346 FS veterans the opportunity to see the next generation of the Thunderbolt. They were very excited to have the chance to inspect the A-10 and discuss the aircraft capabilities with an A-10 pilot and maintenance crew.

During the headquarters tour, the veterans had the chance to touch a piece of history which included not only the 346 FS parent unit but also honored a fallen comrade. During World War II,

31 pilots from the 346 FS were killed in action. Of those pilots who had died, one became the last airman to be posthumously awarded Congressional Medal of Honor during World War II. That airman was First Lt. Raymond L. Knight, after whom the Twelfth Air Force Headquarters building is named.

(Editor's note: This information is courtesy Philip L. Peoples, Reunion Coordinator)

Children Learn More from Do's than Don'ts

Young children will be better behaved when they know clearly what you expect of them. Instead of just saying, “Don’t do that,” show and tell your child what you *do* want him or her to do. Follow these four steps:

1) Teach your child the steps of the desired behavior.

It is unreasonable to expect your child to do something if you haven’t taught it to him or her.

2) Have your child describe the behavior back to you.

This will tell you whether or not your child understands your expectations.

3) Ask your child to demonstrate the behavior to you.

If your child can demonstrate the behavior reasonably well, then you know that it is within the child’s abilities.

4) Model the behavior yourself.

Children are always watching you and trying to imitate your behavior.

Use these steps to reduce behaviors like whining and nagging or to improve behaviors like table manners and sharing toys.

For more tips on parenting, visit www.parenting.org or call the Girls and Boys Town National Hotline, 1-800-448-3000.

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